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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 28 | Min 19 | Humidity 84% Generally cloudy sky Sensex 65,397 | Nifty 19,542 | Gold 60,725 | Silver 72,915 | Dollar [illegible] BP 101.14

HOLIDAY NOTICE

Bangalore Mirror wishes you a **VERY HAPPY DASARA**

Our offices and press will remain closed on Monday on account of Ayudha Pooja. So you'll miss seeing us on **Tuesday, October 24.** But you can log on to **www.bangaloremirror.com** or follow **@BangaloreMirror** on Twitter for all the buzz about Bengaluru and beyond

Civic body floats tenders, sets yet another deadline for filling 90% of potholes in the city

THE HOLE PICTURE

BBMP's task: Fill 11,366 potholes by November 30

KAUSHIK JN

Page 4 MAHADEVAPURA HAS A CRATER PROBLEM

| Sridhar.Vivan
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> **Bengaluru has a network of 14,000 km of roads of which more than 6,000 km of stretches have been dug up by various agencies**
> — BBMP official

Bengaluru city currently has 11,366 potholes according to BBMP data. The BBMP aims to fill 90% of these potholes by November 30. The countdown has begun.

During previous years, BBMP claimed that city roads had turned into potholed roads due to heavy rainfall, hindering personnel from filling these. This is the reason often cited as to why Bengaluru could not be declared a pothole-free city.

Ironically, this year, the city has witnessed a deficit in rainfall. And yet potholes are everywhere. Finally, the civic agency seems to have woken up and floated tenders to fill potholes. This time, officials are seemingly non-committal about filling 100% of potholes, only stating that the majority will be fixed.

BBMP chief commissioner Tushar Giri Nath said: "This year, we could not take up the full-fledged work of filling potholes. So, now we have floated tenders and plan to fill 90% of the potholes by November 30. Earlier, by November 30, last year, we spent Rs 30 crore to fill potholes alone."

According to BBMP records, there are 11,366 potholes in the city. The maximum number of potholes are in the Dasarahalli zone. RR Nagar has 845 potholes, Bommanahalli zone has 319, Mahadevapura has 595, South has 401, West zone has 422, and Yelahanka has 423 potholes.

The money allocated for filling potholes in various assembly constituencies is as follows: BBMP has proposed to spend Rs 3.6 crore to fill potholes in Bommanahalli assembly constituency limits and Rs 1.5 crore for Shivajinagar. Chickpet, Jayanagar and Basavanagudi have been allocated Rs 90 lakh each, Rs 75 lakh for Malleswaram, Rs 60 lakh for Govindarajanagar alongside Rs 15 Lakh each for RR Nagar, Hebbal, Pulakeshinagar and Shantinagar constituencies.

Even though BBMP's official numbers point out 11,366 potholes, the numbers may be much more. The civic agency has spent a whopping Rs 7,000 crore in the last seven years to lay

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 »

BM NAVARANG 2023

Today's Colour

PURPLE

The joyous Navaratri festival has arrived, and it's time to immerse yourself in the celebrations with **Bangalore Mirror Navarang.**

Ladies, here's the exciting part – you have the opportunity to adorn yourself in sarees of the colour designated for the day. Gather your favorite companions, capture group selfies in your vibrant sarees, and be sure to embrace the day's thematic color.

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The most captivating group photo stands a chance to be showcased in BM-Navarang

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BARRED

Crackdown on 'unsafe' restaurants, watering holes

PAGE 5

GET CRACKING

How to ensure a green, healthy festive season

PAGE 2

2 THINGS TO DO

01 Literary delight

Experience the 'Write out loud poetry' evening, celebrating the spoken word. Connect with fellow poets, celebrate language's beauty, and explore human emotions through poetry. Don't miss this literary artistry event! **Where: Lahe Lahe**
When: October 24 onwards

02 Artful expression

Unleash your inner artist at 'Mural magic: Wall art workshop'. In 3 hours, learn wall painting, receive expert guidance, and connect with fellow creatives. Brighten up your space with your unique artwork! **Where: SmallWorld**
When: October 29 onwards

Durga Ashtami at Manipal Hospital

Manipal Hospitals on Old Airport Road celebrated Durga Ashtami for the first time, offering a festive atmosphere for patients primarily from West Bengal.

Dr. Ajit Kumar Roy, Consultant in Neurology at Manipal Hospitals, said, "Patients should not have to miss the festivities of Durga Puja when they need our care the most. My patients convey their gratitude for this arrangement as they are away from their hometown. Shubho Bijoya."
Dr. Somnath Mitra, Consultant in Internal Medicine at Manipal Hospitals, added, "I wish everyone a very happy Durga Puja and a year full of happiness and health."

Eco-friendly Deepawali

Pollution Board establishes task force for safe Deepawali celebrations

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PICTURE FOR REPRESENTATION ONLY

KSPCB task force to permit only eco-friendly green crackers during the upcoming Deepawali celebrations

The Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) issued directives just days ago to establish a task force comprising representatives from various departments to intensify efforts against illegal fireworks. The focus was on permitting only eco-friendly "green crackers" during the upcoming Deepawali celebrations. While the police can play a pivotal role in enforcing these regulations, cracking down on illicit firecracker vendors and ensuring compliance with the designated 8-10 pm time frame for fireworks, concerned citizens have taken the initiative to address firecracker-related safety, air quality, and noise pollution concerns. They have submitted a letter to the Commissioner of Police, B Dayananda, seeking proactive measures in preparation for the upcoming festive season.

The letter by Priya Chetty-Rajagopal and Harini Raghavan, from the Compassionate City said, "The Supreme Court Ruling in Oct 2018 had made specific mention of banning non-green firecrackers across the country, specific timings 8 to 10 pm for burning green crackers, and specifically no purchase or burning of crackers near schools or hospitals. While this has been in force for a while, the Supreme Court has put the onus of responsibility squarely on the police, specifically the station house officer (SHO). Therefore, it becomes even more critical to ensure that police can implement and work closely with the stakeholders to address and prevent any law breakage proactively."

Recently, the members from Compassionate City met the KSPCB officials on October 10, and soon after that, a multi-stakeholder meeting was called on October 12; this was held with the presence of police officials and other departments like BBMP, fire, commercial tax, transportation, AWBI/KAWB (for animals), Health and Family Welfare were present.

After the tragic incident on October 7 that claimed many lives, police officials started a crackdown running with illegal operations. They inspected firecracker stores or establishments in the city and took action by seizing the illegal firecrackers and closing some of the godowns.

While the police and other departments have been proactive this time by starting measures a month early before Deepawali, the citizens pointed out that apart from enclosed circular from the pollution board, pollution check equipment, illegal cracker sale crackdown, police training & awareness across all stations, posters on police stations and Hoysala vans reminding public on green crackers and safety norms, specific awareness on police WhatsApp and telephone helplines, and SHO's, their Hoysala, Cheetah and team to be informed, trained and available, working with local citizen committees, RWA's and Apartment associations to ensure that all safety and health norms followed. Chetty said, "We see that some firecracker sales are happening even online, and there need to be even the cybercrime cell should be involved to nab those who are not following the protocols of selling green crackers. The green crackers ensure a safe Deepawali with 30% less particulate matter pollution and are less noisy than other crackers. With over 17 people killed in the Attibele firecracker incident, we must be aware. Police have a strong role in ceasing crackers and can enforce strict action. The elderly, ill, children, asthmatics, covid-compromised and animals should be considered, and we ensure that we all celebrate a safe and healthy Deepawali".

"The green crackers ensure a safe Deepawali with 30% less particulate matter pollution and are less noisy

– Priya Chetty-Rajagopal, Compassionate City

Two extreme weather patterns in sea, K'taka 'safe' for now

Sridhar Vivan
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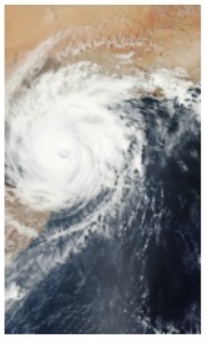
The exit of the southwest monsoon is usually marked by a series of cyclones either in the Arabian Sea or the Bay of Bengal. In recent years, there has been a rise in the number of cyclones. The changing weather pattern is puzzling as this year; there have already been three cyclones and a few more expected to hit the coasts before the year-end.

A Prasad, a Meteorologist from India Meteorological Department, said, "Currently, two weather patterns are taking place both at Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea. The paths have been defined for now, and Meteorologists say there is no threat to Karnataka from the cyclones. According to the current data, a severe cyclonic storm, "Tej", intensified into an extremely severe storm over the west-central and adjoining southwest Arabian Sea. Meanwhile, a depression persists over the west-central Bay of Bengal. Tej was moving northwestwards with a speed of 16 kmph during the past six hours and is very likely to move northwestwards and cross the Yemen-Oman coasts by October 24 with a wind speed of 115-125 kmph, gusting to 140 kmph. On the other hand, the depression over the west-central Bay of Bengal moved west-northwestwards with a speed of six kmph during the past six hours. It may intensify into a deep depression during the next 12 hours and is likely to move northwestwards during the next 12 hours, then recurve and move north-northeast wards during subsequent three days towards Bangladesh and adjoining West Bengal coasts."



This year, there have already been three cyclones, with a few more expected to hit the coasts before the year-end

In 2023, the Indian Ocean has already seen three cyclones, each with its unique impact. The Bay of Bengal was host to two of these cyclones: Cyclone MOCHA from May 9 to 15, which significantly affected the North Myanmar and Southeast Bangladesh coasts, and Cyclone MANDOUS, which occurred from December 6 to 10, impacting North Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, and adjoining South Andhra Pradesh coasts. The Arabian Sea witnessed its lone cyclone for 2023, Cyclone BIPARJOY, which made landfall between Mandvi (Gujarat) and Karachi (Pakistan) near Jakhau Port (Gujarat) from June 6 to 19.

These recent cyclones follow a pattern observed over the past few years. In 2020, the Indian Ocean experienced the formation of five cyclones. Cyclone Amphan, Cyclone Nivar, and Cyclone Burevi significantly impacted coastal regions in the Bay of Bengal, while Cyclone Nisarga struck the Maharashtra coast in the Arabian Sea. In 2021, four cyclones emerged, three in the Bay of Bengal, and one in the Arabian Sea. Cyclone Taukate and Cyclone Yaas affected the Arabian Sea, while Cyclone Gulaab and Cyclone Shaheen impacted the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea, respectively. In 2022, two cyclones formed in the Bay of Bengal: Cyclone Asani and Cyclone Sitrang, both influencing coastal areas in this region.

The changing weather patterns and increased cyclone activity in recent years have raised concerns and uncertainties regarding future weather trends.

New one: High-security number plate con

Online fraudsters making the most of lack of clarity among motorists

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Even as the state government is struggling to streamline the high–security registration plates (HSRP) number plate affixation process, motorists are falling victim to fake platforms promising such number plates. In one such case, a man has alleged that he was ill-informed by showroom staff.

Recently, the transport department announced that citizens can only apply for HSRP number plates through https://transport.karnataka.gov.in OR www.siam.in. But, as many such sites crop up, lack of awareness and no crackdown on these sites are leaving vulnerable to scamsters.

"I went to a showroom to get the HSRP number plate. They told me to check the procedure online. I found a site hsrpbooking.com that promised to deliver the HSRP number plates. I entered all the vehicle details for the booking. Further, I was asked to make a payment using a QR code.

But after payment, I realised that there was no notification or acknowledgement. I tried contacting the contact number mentioned, and one of the call verification apps showed it as fraud. I fell into this trap because I was ill-informed by the showroom staff," said Ansar Pasha, a motorist.

Pasha paid Rs 590 to avail of an HSRP number plate on October 20.

He added that just issuing guidelines and mandating HSRP number plates is not sufficient. "Officials need to provide proper information. They should send the required information through SMS or messages," he added.

The Karnataka Vehicle Number Plates Manufacturers and Seller Association had alleged that the move by the transport department is aimed at favouring a few manufacturers and sellers of number plates. The association has been demanding a withdrawal of the order stating a heavy impact on the livelihood of hundreds of workers in the field.

The transport department issued an order following Morth's instruction mandating the installation of HSRP number plates by November 17. The order is valid on all vehicles purchased before April 2019.

According to the transport department, the correct procedure to apply for HSRP is via the sites mentioned by it. After selecting the dealer location at per motorist's convenience, they can make payment online. Further, the vehicle owner will receive an OTP on their number. The owner can select the time and date as per convenience and visit the vehicle manufacturers to get the HSRP number plate fixed.

Blackmail on the road

A man has claimed on a social media site that some men tried to extort his cousin when he was riding on a bike with a Kerala licence plate. The man has claimed on Reddit that his cousin was stopped by people who planted drugs in his vehicle in an attempt to blackmail him.

The man says that his cousin works as a service consultant and he delivers customers' cars and was tasked to drop two cars. He said his cousin was on Bannerghatta Road when he was targeted.

"My cousin was out for some work at 12 am. He was travelling in his KL registered bike and was surrounded by some rowdies. They planted him with drugs and started taking a video of him, threatening to take him to the police if he didn't pay them Rs 60,000. He managed to escape from there but had to ditch his phone and backpack. To take back his belongings and not file a case, the police took a bribe and let him off," claimed the man.

Car window smashed, Rs 13 lakh gone

Two bike-borne men allegedly stole Rs 13.75 lakh in cash from a parked BMW automobile on Friday afternoon in Bengaluru, in a frightening episode of daylight crime. A CCTV camera captured the theft. According to reports, the incident happened close to the sub-registrar's office in Sompura, Sarjapur.

In the video, one individual can be seen waiting on a two-wheeler while another is seen breaking the car's driver-side window and getting inside. He is seen taking out a yellow packet that appears to contain cash.

Mohan Babu, who hails from Anekal and is the owner of the car, has filed a police complaint.

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Mahadevapura roads: From craters to chaos

Despite lion's share of funds allocated, potholes haunt Mahadevapura

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BBMP records indicate an expenditure of Rs 1,456 crore dedicated to pothole repairs in the Mahadevapura Zone. However, the tangible results of this investment are lacking, leaving locals disheartened

Mahadevapura Zone, one of the eight zones under the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), remains in the spotlight for all the wrong reasons, from stormwater drain encroachments to frequent flooding. Now, the area is notorious for its pervasive potholes and craters, leaving residents frustrated and roads hazardous. Over the past three years, BBMP records indicate an expenditure of Rs 1,456 crore dedicated to pothole repairs in the Mahadevapura Zone. However, the tangible results of this investment are lacking, leaving residents disheartened.

"It is difficult to commute on most roads in and around Varthur, Hoody, Whitefield and other areas due to the potholes and the craters. We have been complaining to the authorities concerned about the bad condition of the roads, but nothing has been done to date to fix this problem," said Jagadeesh Reddy of Varthur Rising.

The roads at AECS Layout, Varthur, Hoody, Tubarahalli, and BEML Layout have become accident zones for unwary motorists, especially two-wheeler riders. "There are many potholes on the main road. Due to potholes, whenever it rains, it will be difficult for motorists to commute on this road. There is no footpath on the stretch between Kundalahalli Junction and Tubarahalli, thus causing a lot of inconvenience to pedestrians," said JC Reddy, a resident of Meenakshi Layout. It is said that Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar, during an interaction with the residents on Saturday, has assured that potholes on the city roads will be filled up by next month. "The Deputy Chief Minister has told us that he has already instructed the BBMP officials to fill up potholes.

> **"We have been complaining to the authorities about the condition of the roads, but nothing has been done to fix this problem** – Jagadeesh Reddy, Varthur Rising

The condition of Varthur Main Road is worsened due to potholes and craters. I am not sure about the BBMP's commitment to fill up potholes," said Jagadeesh Reddy. A resident of Varthur, on the condition of anonymity, has said that some of the crossroads are not either asphalted or restored. "Some of the crossroads dug up for laying water supply pipes and underground drainage pipes are yet to be restored. I expect the BBMP authorities to asphalt these crossroads before the announcement of elections to the BBMP Council," said the resident.

Blaming the utility services providers for the condition of the roads, Vinod Jacob of Namma Bengaluru Foundation has said the BBMP, BWSSB, BMRCL and fibre cable companies' engineers and contractors should be held responsible for the condition of the roads. "They have consistently failed to complete work and left potholes which have caused so many deaths and accidents. They don't share blueprints and keep digging and cutting roads even after the roads are newly laid. The IT corridor has suffered the most, and there has been no action from the MLA who should fix accountability on the contractors for the dereliction of duty and shoddy work," said Vinod Jacob.

Holes apart: Pitfalls of riding on Bengaluru's roads

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

roads, and yet most of the roads are not free of potholes. In fact, Rs 30 crore was spent in this financial year (2022-23) just to fix potholes in Bengaluru.

A senior BBMP official said: "Since 2016, BBMP has received grants of Rs 25,000 crore from the state government for various developmental works. We have used Rs 6,000 crore from this amount for Amruta Nagrottana works. Overall, Rs 7,000 crore has been spent on roads."

Officials also believe potholes are 'perennial' in the city.

"During the previous financial years, we have spent close to Rs 40 to Rs 50 crore for filling potholes and resurfacing roads.

Last year, the state government had provided a grant of Rs 1,000 crore to fix roads that were dug up by BWSSB to supply water to 110 villages around Bengaluru.

More than 2,000 km of roads have been dug up by BWSSB around the city. BBMP has got a grant of Rs 1,000 crore, which may not be enough; we may have to request for more grants. Bengaluru has a network of 14,000 km of roads, of which more than 6,000 km of stretches have been dug up by various agencies for different purposes. These bad stretches of roads are filled with potholes and need to be resurfaced," the official added.

KAUSHIK JN

The state government had provided a grant of Rs 1,000 crore to fix roads that were dug up by BWSSB to supply water to 110 villages

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Hazardous overflow

Vasanth Nagar

The drain across from the Jeevan Building in Kumara Park West, within BBMP Ward 93, Vasanth Nagar, is experiencing critical issues. It is currently at full capacity, leaking, and clogged.

Market mayhem

KR Puram

KR Puram market on Old Madras Road faces issues with flowers and vegetable vendors blocking the road, leaving no space for pedestrians.

Tree trouble

Ramamurthy Nagar

Opposite DMart in Ramamurthy Nagar, concerns arise as an ageing tree may pose a hazard during heavy rain or thunderstorms.

Not safe? Shut shop

BBMP inspects, orders shut-down of eateries/pubs that are not adhering to fire-safety measures; this is no solution, say hoteliers

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Perhaps alarmed by the recent fire mishap at a café on the terrace of a three-floor building, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) officials were seen undertaking an inspection of pubs, bars and restaurants in the city, on Friday.

The officials led by BBMP Chief Medical Officer (Public Health) Dr Balasundar inspected 280 establishments and issued notices to 167 of them for violating safety norms. They have ordered the closure of 21 pubs, bars and restaurants for violating the norms.

Bengaluru South leads the list with the closure of seven establishments and Bengaluru East is in the second place with six closures. Bengaluru West is in the third place with the closure of five, while the officials have ordered shut down of one each at Bommanahalli, Bengaluru East, RR Nagar. However, no violations were found in Dasarahalli and Yelahanka Zones. The majority of pubs closed in Bengaluru West were operating from roof tops.

"We will continue inspecting the pubs, bars & restaurants and hotels in future. The establishments that have been served notices, must respond on the measures taken to comply with the norms," said BBMP Chief Medical Officer (Public Health) Dr Balasundar.

Officials lock up a pub in the city

It is said that during the inspection, the officials found fire extinguishers placed at the wrong locations. The teams also found that most joints had no fire exits. "We have ordered the closure of pubs, bars and restaurants that don't have fire exits. We will revoke closure orders only after fire exits are facilitated and penalty is paid for violation of the norms all these years," Dr Balsundar said.

He said that he has directed the owners to organise fire safety mock drills for workers and employees. "We found that most of the pubs, bars and restaurants operating from rooftops had not organised any fire safety mock drills for their employees," he said.

Bruhat Bengaluru Hotels Association executive committee member Krishnaraj S P said that closure of these establishments is not a solution. "It is the BBMP that issues trade licences to them. It is their responsibility to verify whether the owners have taken measures to follow fire safety norms," said Krishnaraj.

Bruhat Bengaluru Hotels Association president PC Rao described the fire mishap at Mudpipe Café as unfortunate. "It is the responsibility of owners of pubs, bars and restaurants to take fire safety measures for the welfare of employees. A majority of owners have already put in place fire safety measures by installing fire extinguishers and creating awareness on how to use LPG. We have decided to organise safety programmes, training, make posters, and guidelines for the benefit of hoteliers. Closure is not an answer. We are planning to have a meeting with the BBMP officials shortly," said Rao.

Still awaiting justice

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A male intern who had alleged sexual harassment at workplace in September, said that no action has been taken and that his company was delaying the process.

According to a source, 'the company is doing a slow job of investigating this otherwise clear case'.

However, the source claimed that after several tweets bashing them for not providing adequate psychological support went viral, the company provided the victim with a qualified and experienced therapist, who has been helping him deal with the situation.

But the victim has also claimed that the investigation has put him in many uncomfortable situations.

"They have refused to extend the internship despite the person having gone through such a traumatising episode," said the source.

Advocate Supriya Mehta says that more than therapy, it would have helped the victim if the company would have taken a quick cognizance of the offence. Moreover, in POSH cases, the victim suffers a lot considering that they have to see the perpetrator at the workplace. The company's inability to act on the matter shows the inefficiency of the Internal Committee as well as the disregard of the law, Mehta said.

"The POSH Act mandates that when such incidents are reported to the HR or senior management, the first step is to bring up the matter with the Internal Committee (IC) of a company. Any company that has 10 or more employees must have an Internal Committee to address any complaints under the POSH Act. Based on the complaint, the IC shall conduct an inquiry, which shall be concluded within 90 days. Given this, after the inquiry is completed, the IC decides the penalty for the perpetrator, if found guilty. And during the inquiry, the perpetrator should be transferred to another workplace or provide the complainant/victim with a three-month paid leave or any other relief for the time being. While all of this is encapsulated in the law, it is also known that some of the inquiries are unilateral or biased," she said.

> **"POSH Act mandates that when such incidents are reported to the HR, the first step is to bring up the matter with the Internal Committee of the firm** –Supriya Mehta, advocate

She added that in this case, the victim is an intern who holds no relevant position in the company and has no power or say in the working of the company.

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BM NAVARANG 2023

Navarang with Bangalore Mirror

As the vibrant festivities of Navaratri unfolded, Bengaluru embraced the enchanting hue of pink on Sunday, transforming the city into a sea of rosy elegance. The BM Navarang initiative has garnered an overwhelming response, with Bengalureans adorning themselves in stunning shades of all colours. The enthusiasm is palpable, and each day witnesses a growing number of participants eager to contribute their unique entries to this colourful celebration.

BM Navarang has become a beloved tradition in the hearts of Bengalureans, drawing them in with its allure and creativity. Sunday's sea of pink is a testament to the city's wholehearted embrace of this initiative.

With only one day remaining for Navaratri, the excitement is reaching its peak, urging everyone to seize the moment and dress up in the regal hue of purple. The call to share photo entries is a final invitation to be part of this kaleidoscopic canvas of Dasara festivities.

In the tapestry of Navaratri celebrations, BM Navarang stands out as a vibrant thread, weaving new colours and traditions into the cultural fabric of the city. As the last day approaches, let the spirit of Dasara radiate through your purple attire, and join in the jubilant chorus of BM Navarang, where every colour tells a story of celebration and unity.

Submit your group photos/selfies, along with names, addresses, and mobile numbers, to our WhatsApp line before 3 pm daily. Our number is given below. The best group photo stands a chance to be featured in BM-Navarang.

Please note that Bangalore Mirror reserves the right to use any of these photos for future promotions.

Today's colour: PURPLE

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Picture sent by K Kavya

Jayashree Jadhav & friends, Rammurthy nagar

Arundathi Naidu Jeevan

Anitha & Akshara, Whitefield

Sri Lakshmi and friends, Vinayaka Nivas Apartments, Uttarahalli

Suvya Neighbors Association, BTM 2nd Stage

Kridha V Singh from KR Puram

Monika Patel, Chitradurga

Poornima and Shilpa, Malleswaram

Meera, Marathahalli

Sushma and Neeta

Lakkur cousins, Bengaluru

Mangala & friends, Sobha Forest View, Vajarahalli

Sri Vidya ganapathy Nagekoota, RPC Layout, Vijayanagar

Navaratri team

Mother-daughter duo Ratna Jayagopal and Nagaranjani Jayagopal

After foggy break, India clinches win

Kohli's 95 and Shami's 5 wickets steal the show as India breaks losing streak to Kiwis

#DHARAMSHALA

Virat Kohli anchored another tricky chase with perfection after Mohammad Shami's sizzling five-wicket haul as India defeated New Zealand by four wickets in the World Cup here on Sunday, their first win over Black Caps in an ICC event after 20 years.

Shami (5/54) starred with the ball to restrict New Zealand to 273 all out despite Daryl Mitchell's gutsy 130 off 127 balls.

Kohli (95 off 104) later anchored India's chase with a near blemish-free knock and shared three crucial 50-run stands with Shreyas Iyer (33), KL Rahul (27) and Ravindra Jadeja (39 not out) to guide his side home in 48 overs.

Mohammed Shami celebrates wicket of Daryl Mitchell during the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup match between India and New Zealand in Dharamshala, on Sunday; KL Rahul plays a shot; Virat Kohli reacts

With India on the cusp of victory, Kohli went for the record equalling 49th ODI hundred but much to the disappointment of a packed crowd at the HPCA stadium, he was caught in the deep.

Chasing 274, Shubman Gill (26) relied on his exquisite timing to find boundaries, while Rohit Sharma (46) played the power game.

Gill drove Trent Boult through extra cover and square to pick up back-to-back boundaries in the seventh over. He then flicked Matt Henry through mid-on and mid-wicket to bring up India's 50 in just 7.4 overs.

Rohit looked in ominous touch as he just planted his foot forward and lap-swept Henry to the backward square leg boundary and then followed it up with a six over mid-off two balls later.

Rohit was lucky as he was dropped by New Zealand skipper Tom Latham behind the stumps off Mitchell Santner in the next over and he punished the left-arm spinner by tonking him over deep midwicket for a six the very next ball.

But Rohit failed to cash in as he dragged a Lockie Ferguson delivery onto the stumps in the next over to end the dangerous-looking 71-run opening stand.

Ferguson dealt another blow to India in his next over in the form of Gill, who was caught by Mitchell at deep third-man boundary.

Kohli then took the innings forward with the help of Iyer (33 off 29) and K L Rahul (27 off 35).

However, two quick wickets of Rahul and Suryakumar Yadav made things little difficult for India before Kohli bailed out the hosts with a 78-run sixth-wicket stand with Jadeja (39 not out). **-PTI**

Shami and Sharma's firsts

Speedster Mohammed Shami became the first Indian to bag two five-wicket hauls in the history of the ODI World Cup. Shami's brilliant performance helped the 'Men in Blue' to restrict New Zealand at 273 on Sunday.

The 33-year-old pacer picked his first five-wicket haul against England in 2019 World Cup.

Other Indian bowlers like Kapil Dev, Venkatesh Prasad, Robin Singh, Ashish Nehra, and Yuvraj Singh all have one five-wicket haul.

Australia's Mitchell Starc tops the most five-wicket haul with three fifers. Apart from Starc, no other bowler has picked more than two fifers in the history of the tournament.

Meanwhile, skipper Rohit Sharma completed 50 ODI sixes in this year, becoming the first Indian to reach a half-century of sixes in the ODI format in a calendar year.

Rohit reached this milestone during Sunday's match.

In the match, Rohit smashed 46 in 40 balls. His knock had four boundaries and four sixes. Rohit batted at a strike rate of 115.

This took Rohit's six tally this year to 53. The highest number of sixes in ODIs in a calendar year is hit by South African legend AB de Villiers, who hit 58 in 18 innings back in 2015. He is followed by West Indies hard-hitting batter Chris Gayle, who smashed 56 maximums in 15 innings back in 2019. Rohit is at the number three spot with 53 this year.

Press pause: Walk in the clouds in Dharamshala

During the ICC Cricket World Cup match between India and New Zealand, the game witnessed a weird interruption as clouds came down to a low height, stopping the high-octane action between these two teams.

At the time of interruption, India was at 100/2, with Shreyas Iyer (21*) and Virat Kohli (7*) unbeaten. Players had to walk off the field as clouds had covered the majority of the ground's area.

During the 16th over of India's innings in a chase of 273 runs, clouds came down the ground to a very low height, making the visibility extremely low for players who could not see the ball properly. The Himachal Pradesh Cricket Association (HPCA) stadium is situated around 1,457 m above the sea level and has Himalayan mountains as its background, making it one of the most beautiful stadiums in the world. At this altitude, clouds came down at a low height, which lowered visibility.

During the 16th over of India's innings, clouds came down very low, making visibility extremely low for players

But for those 10 minutes or so, when the game was interrupted, the scenes were far from beautiful for excited Indian fans who were waiting for Men in Blue to break their 20-year losing streak to Kiwis in ICC tournaments.

Mist and fog paused play for about 10 minutes during Sunday's game

JD(S) power play: Ibrahim advocates for party ideology

Ousted Karnataka JD(S) president C M Ibrahim on Sunday asserted that he is in Janata Dal (Secular) both "technically and mentally" and still heads the party in the state, as his removal from the post was wrong.

Appealing JD(S) national president HD Deve Gowda and his son and former Chief Minister HD Kumaraswamy to reconsider their decision to join hands with the BJP, he also stated that he would decide on the future course of action, including a legal fight against his removal as state president, after October 26.

Following Ibrahim's rebellion against the JD(S) decision on alliance with the BJP that had embarrassed the party, Gowda on Thursday had dissolved the party's Karnataka unit, essentially removing the former as the state president, and had appointed Kumaraswamy as "ad-hoc president".

"Deve Gowda is a senior leader. I request him again through you (media) with folded hands to reconsider the decision on alliance with BJP. Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan (party units) are against the decision to go with the BJP," Ibrahim said.

Speaking to reporters here, he urged Gowda to stand by the ideology which the party had been following all along.

Stating that he is visiting Udaipur and will be travelling to Mumbai later this week to meet JD(S) party leaders there, Ibrahim said, "Deve Gowda knows how he was made the Prime Minister. He knows how I built Janata Dal in 1995. It is not new to him, he knows, but what to do there is pressure from Kumaraswamy on him."

Ibrahim, defying the party leadership, had recently declared that the JD(S) would not join the BJP-led NDA and had even gone to the extent of describing his side of the party as the "original JD(S)". Ibrahim stated that he is still technically and mentally in JD(S), **–PTI**

NOTES FROM THE FIELD

Controversial utterances

Kagwad MLA Raju Kage finds himself in hot water due to recent inappropriate remarks. At a public gathering, he attempted to garner favour by sharing that he remained unfazed about his health during his hospitalisation for a liver transplant, expressing confidence that he would recover. He said that he harboured no concerns, even during the doctors' discussions about his health. The MLA stated, "I only felt sadness when the nurses addressed me as Ajja (grandfather)." This remark drew criticism from the nursing community, but Kage, asserted that his comments were taken out of context.

Crocodile protest

With farmers grappling with persistent power cuts, many have turned to unconventional forms of protest. Farmers in Vijayapura district, frustrated by receiving power only at night, left a crocodile in front of the HESCOM office last Thursday. A farmer recounted discovering the tied-up crocodile while irrigating his farm at night, emphasising that the unusual protest aimed to shed light on the challenges farmers face when restricted to three-phase power exclusively during nighttime.

Metro dilemma

Earlier this week, Bengaluru Metro expanded its reach from Whitefield to Challaghatta, effectively bridging the two missing

links: KR Puram to Baiyappanahalli and Kengeri to Challaghatta. Despite the growing demand for further Metro extensions, Deputy CM DK Shivakumar disclosed that the initial plan for Bengaluru was a Mono rail during JH Patel's tenure as Chief Minister. However, under SM Krishna's leadership, a team sent to foreign countries shifted gears upon witnessing the Delhi Metro, leading to the ultimate choice of Metro over Mono rail for Bengaluru.

Rumour mongering

In Raichur, a swarm of people rushed to a nearby barren land after hearing false rumours of free land distribution. The misinformation prompted individuals to carry ropes and stake claims to their supposed portions. However, as the crowd grew, the police intervened to disperse the gathering, cautioning against falling for such baseless rumours.

Movie buff

Despite Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's current lack of time for movie-watching, he reminisced about his college days when he was a dedicated movie buff. During a recent program, Siddaramaiah shared that he used to watch a movie every day during his college years. While he no longer has the time or inclination for such frequent movie-watching, the CM fondly recalled his college days when catching six movies in a theatre in a week.

Cobra encounter

A recent incident sent shivers down a biker's spine as he discovered a cobra under his bike's hood just before kickstarting the engine. Swift actions prevented a potential disaster as the rider called for help, allowing the serpent to retreat without harm. **– Sridhar Vivan**

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personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Megha Chaudhuri, D/O Shri Amitava Chaudhuri have changed my name from Megha Chaudhuri Banerjee to Megha Chaudhuri post divorce vide affidavit dated 08/11/2022 sworn before notary V. Anjanappa and hereafter be known as Megha Chaudhuri for all future purposes. I have complied with all the legal requirements in this regard.

I, Dimple Preema D'souza W/o Gilbert Pais residing at No 43 Kaveri Enclave 9th Crs Kanshiram Nagara Vidyaranyapura BNG have changed my name to Dimple Pais affidavit KA17748724964056V

I Sowrabha Rai P Y, W/o Rohan Shetty, R/o Flat# D001, Ground floor, Sunshine Silicon Citi, Nallurhalli, Bengaluru-560066 Have changed my name to Sowrabha Shetty for all future purposes.

I Almas Taj Qazi W/O, Muzamil Kagaji R/o Flat 204 Muzzammil Residency Near Hkbk Engineering College Nagawara Bengaluru 560045 have changed my name to Almas Taj Kagaji.

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GET NOTICED

HEALTH TIP: Breast milk provides all the vital nutrients and immunity for the baby's growth, development, and protection against diseases

Papaya has an enzyme called papain beneficial for its digestive properties

BangaloreMirror | 9
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Breathe easy

During festivities, here are tips for patients with breathing problems

Dussehra, a festival that signifies the victory of good over evil, is celebrated with great enthusiasm and fervour across India. However, for individuals battling respiratory issues, the festivity can pose certain challenges. The elaborate fireworks display, bonfires, and polluted air during Dussehra can exacerbate breathing problems, making it crucial for patients to take precautions. Here are some essential tips for patients with breathing problems during the festive season.

Prioritise Indoor Air Quality

Indoor air quality can have a substantial impact on lung health. Make sure your living and working spaces are well-ventilated and free from pollutants. Common indoor air pollutants, such as tobacco smoke, mold, dust mites, and volatile organic compounds (VOCs), can irritate the respiratory system and exacerbate conditions like asthma. Using air purifiers and avoiding smoking indoors are essential steps to safeguard your lung health.

Practice Deep Breathing Exercises

Deep breathing exercises promote lung expansion and strengthen the diaphragm, the primary muscle responsible for breathing. Techniques like diaphragmatic breathing, pursed-lip breathing, and yoga-inspired pranayama can help improve lung function and reduce shortness of breath. These exercises are especially beneficial for individuals with chronic respiratory conditions.

Stay Hydrated

Proper hydration is crucial for maintaining the thin layer of mucus that lines the respiratory tract. This layer helps trap airborne particles and prevents infections. When you're well-hydrated, your body can effectively produce and maintain this protective mucus layer. Aim to drink plenty of water throughout the day to support optimal lung health.

Don't Underestimate the Power of Exercise

Regular physical activity isn't just beneficial for cardiovascular health; it also plays a significant role in enhancing lung function.
Engaging in aerobic exercises like walking, swimming, and cycling helps increase lung capacity and improves the efficiency of oxygen exchange. Exercise also strengthens respiratory muscles, making breathing more effective and reducing the risk of respiratory issues.

> **The elaborate fireworks display and polluted air can exacerbate breathing problems, making it crucial for patients to take precautions**

Consume a Lung-Friendly Diet

A balanced diet rich in antioxidants, vitamins, and minerals is essential for lung health. Foods like fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and lean proteins provide nutrients that help reduce inflammation and oxidative stress in the lungs. Omega-3 fatty acids, found in fatty fish like salmon and flaxseeds, have anti-inflammatory properties that can benefit lung health.

Maintain a Healthy Weight

Being overweight or underweight can impact lung health. Excess weight can compress the lungs and make breathing more challenging, while being underweight may result in decreased respiratory muscle strength. Strive to maintain a healthy weight through a combination of regular exercise and a well-balanced diet.

Avoid Respiratory Irritants

Steer clear of environmental factors that can irritate the respiratory system. Tobacco smoke is a well-known lung irritant and a leading cause of lung diseases like chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and lung cancer. Additionally, exposure to pollutants such as vehicle emissions and industrial fumes should be minimized whenever possible.

Practice Good Posture

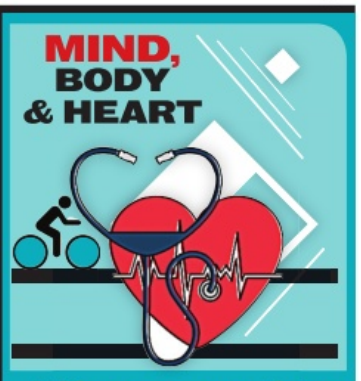
Believe it or not, your posture can affect your lung function. Slouching compresses the chest cavity and reduces the amount of space available for the lungs to expand. Maintaining good posture -- whether sitting, standing, or even sleeping -- allows the lungs to work optimally and helps prevent respiratory strain.

Regular Check-ups with a pulmonologist

Scheduling regular check-ups with a pulmonologist is a proactive approach to maintaining lung health. Pulmonologists are specialized doctors who can assess your lung function, provide personalized advice, and detect potential issues early on.

Caring for your lungs should be a top priority for a healthier and more fulfilling life. By incorporating these expert-backed strategies, you can optimize your lung health, reduce the risk of respiratory issues, and enjoy the benefits of improved overall well-being. Remember, a little preparation and caution can go a long way in ensuring a happy and healthy Dussehra for all.

(Dr. Ashok K Rajput, CK Birla Hospital, for IANS)



All you need to know about...

Lack of sleep

Less than 5 hours of sleep can cause depression
A recent genetic study led by UCL (University College London) specialists suggests that sleeping less than five hours per night may raise the likelihood of developing depressive symptoms.

It's complex
Historically, poor sleep has been seen as a side effect of mental ill health, but this study found that the link between sleep and mental illness is more complex.

Feel the blues
The study, published in the journal Translational Psychiatry, analysed data from people with an average age of 65 and found short sleep was associated with the onset of depressive symptoms. Lead author Odessa S Hamilton (UCL Institute of Epidemiology & Health Care) said: "We have this chicken or egg scenario between suboptimal sleep duration and depression, they frequently cooccur, but which comes first is largely unresolved. Using genetic susceptibility to disease we determined that sleep likely precedes depressive symptoms, rather than the inverse."

Link explained
The researchers found that people with a stronger genetic predisposition to short sleep (less than five hours in a given night) were more likely to develop depressive symptoms over 4-12 years, but that people with a greater genetic predisposition to depression did not have an increased likelihood of short sleep.

Short and long sleep durations
Senior author Dr Olesya Ajnakina (UCL Institute of Epidemiology & Health Care and the Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology & Neuroscience at King's College London) said: "Short and long sleep durations, along with depression, are major contributors to public health burden that are highly heritable." ANI

MIRRORLIGHTS

Taylor Swift's music has positive impact on mental health: Research

Some music artistes have a more positive impact on the mood and wellbeing of young people than others, with American singer-songwriter Taylor Swift coming out on top (32 per cent) as having the most positive effects, closely followed by the British singer-songwriter Ed Sheeran (28 per cent), new research has highlighted.

The research conducted by The O2 Arena also showed that over 80 per cent of young people agree that music (88 per cent) and live events (83 per cent) have a positive impact on their mood and wellbeing.

In addition, about 20 per cent stated that the positive impact on their mental health is what they enjoy most about attending live events, with more than a quarter (27 per cent) citing the opportunity to forget about everything else they have going on when attending live events.

"This research highlights the undeniable link between live events and the positive impact they have on the mental health and wellbeing of young people, which presents us with a unique opportunity to make a difference within our local community -- something which has always been a huge priority for us," said Adam Pearson, Commercial Director at The O2.

Moreover, nearly two-thirds (61 per cent) of young people mentioned that being a part of online and in-person communities has a positive impact on their mood or wellbeing. -IANS

Chai-Time

SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

9(16×4÷8)2! = ?

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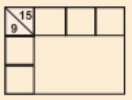
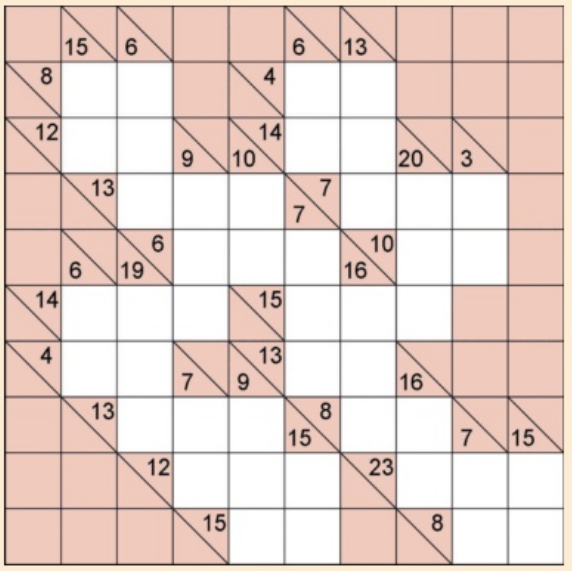
Kakuro

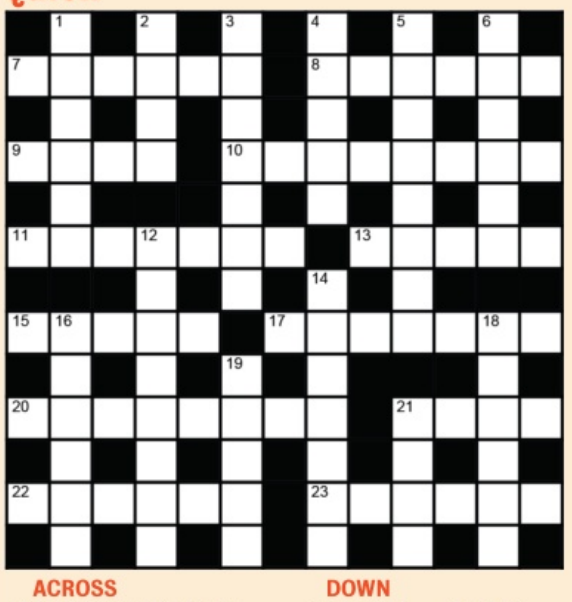


The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 European monarchy (6)
8 Pursued wild animals or game for sport or food (6)
9 Bloke (4)
10 Libertine (8)
11 Knocking vigorously (7)
13 Imposed a penalty (5)
15 Coast (5)
17 Paper-folding (7)
20 Hairstyle (8)
21 Neck hair (4)
22 Challenged or braved (6)
23 Available if needed (2,4)

DOWN

1 U2's "The ___ Tree" (6)
2 A body of troops in tents (4)
3 Pop star Phil ____ (7)
4 Greek letter (5)
5 Driving to anger (8)
6 Emend (6)
12 Light mineral oil (8)
14 Park in Bangalore's Central Business District (7)
16 Horses' feet (6)
18 Long sleeveless cloak (6)
19 Finances (5)
21 By far (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: O EQUALS G

BSE EKS OISZE CRIBH PJNY WRI SUSI HRCY EKS INYONYO OIR-RUSP RW TKZYOS.

Linemaro

I walk into things when I look at you

Mindchow

What we achieve inwardly will change outer reality

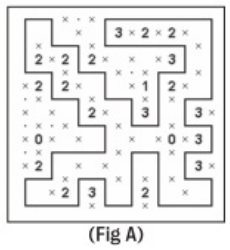
Joke of the day

The best way to lie is to tell the truth, carefully edited truth

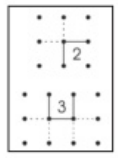
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

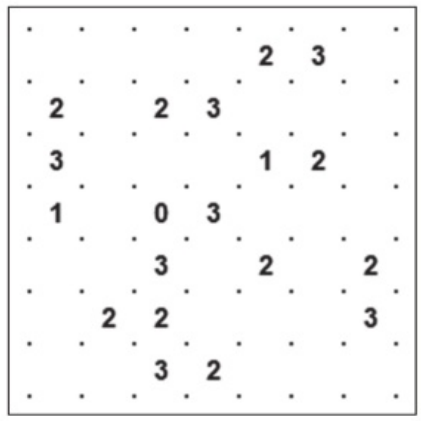


(Fig B) Not Allowed

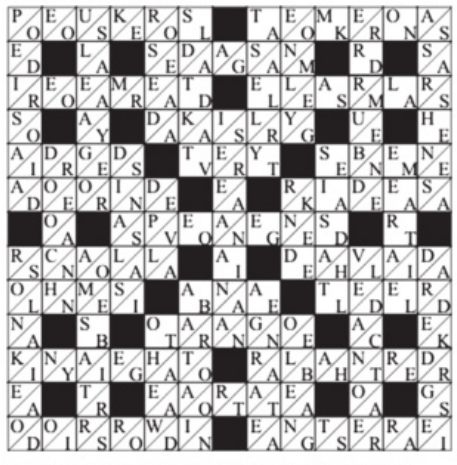
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



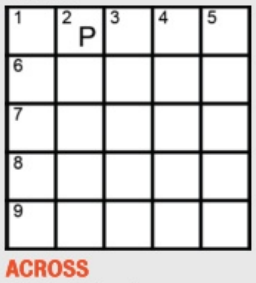
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

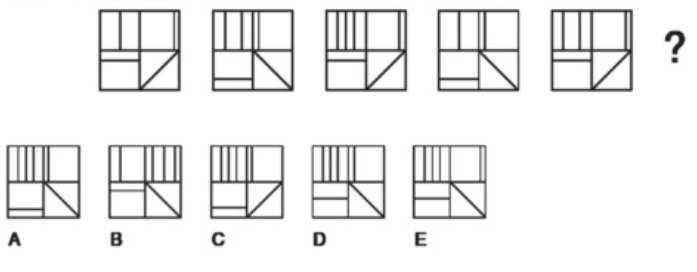
1 Pells; 6 Quote;
7 Run-in; 8 In Goa;
9 LSD go

DOWN

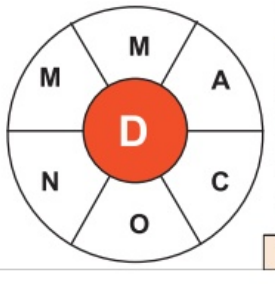
1 Tings; 2 On GPO;
3 Quale; 4 UR lid;
5 Noels

Mensapuzzle

What comes next?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

02 Average; 03 Good; 04 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

	4						6	
9	5		3		2		8	4
	1		6		8		3	
7								5
4		9				7		6
3								8
	9		5		7		4	
6	7		8		4		5	3
	3						7	

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 4
2 3 4 7

Medium = 6
2 2 2 4

Hard = 12
2 6 9 4

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

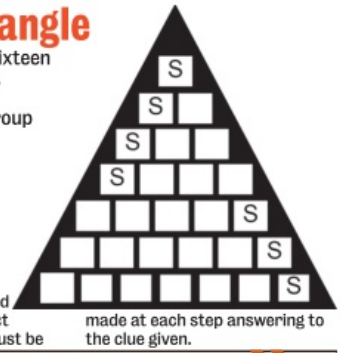
Differences: 1. Boy is moved. 2. Woman's leg is moved. 3. Arm is not showing. 4. Man's head is tilted forward. 5. Mouth is closed. 6. Pocket is added to side of golf bag.

Riddler

Two people come to a river. There is a boat, however it can carry one person only. How can they each get to the other side of the river using the boat?

Alpha triangle

1 Atomic number Sixteen
2 South East, abbr.
3 Of wine, dry
4 Small religious group
5 References
6 Urban areas
7 Brings forth



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

YOU NEVER TELL ME YOU LOVE ME ANYMORE !
AHA ! THANK YOU !
7-27
WHY ARE YOU THANKING ME ?
YOU JUST ADMITTED THAT YOU DON'T LISTEN TO ME WHEN I TALK TO YOU !
Yates/Casson

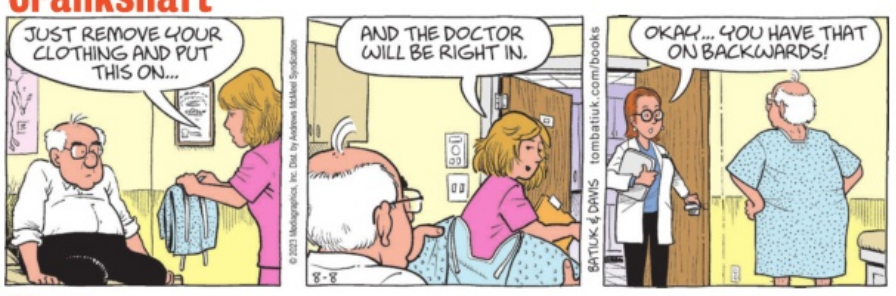
Bizarrotrip

Diamond Lil

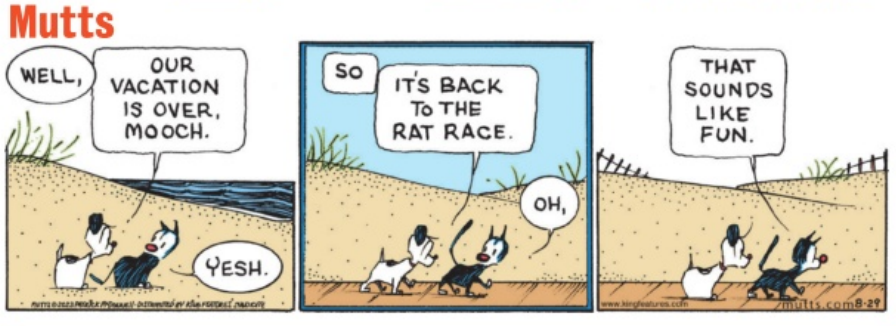
Hart of the city

THERE'S THIS GIRL I JUST MET AND SHE IS TOTALLY BITING MY STYLE.
SHE'S INTO LITERALLY EVERYTHING I'M INTO.
IF YOU HAVE A LOT IN COMMON, YOU SHOULD TAKE THIS AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A NEW FRIEND.
THINK OF HER LIKE THE HAN SOLO TO YOUR CHEWBACCA.
WHY AM I CHEWBACCA?
@DCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft


JUST REMOVE YOUR CLOTHING AND PUT THIS ON...
AND THE DOCTOR WILL BE RIGHT IN.
OKAY... YOU HAVE THAT ON BACKWARDS!
tombatiuk.com/books
BATIUK & DAVIS

Mutts



WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you may sense negative vibrations around you, potentially leading to unhappiness. You are advised to refrain from investing in worthless assets. You might also notice a lack of support from friends and those around you today. Expecting too much help from others may cause nervousness, so make independent decisions today.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you may struggle to present yourself logically, leading to a sense of dullness and decreased confidence. Trust your intuition when making investment decisions. People around you may not be cooperative with routine tasks, so be cautious about consuming unhealthy food to avoid stomach issues.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you are likely to feel more excited due to the cooperation of your family and friends. You may be considering renovating your house or acquiring some souvenirs to enhance your status, possibly increasing your social standing. Expect potential growth in your fixed assets.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today is a promising day in terms of gains, and you might achieve results with less effort. Your losses may turn into profits with your wisdom. Consider pursuing academic courses to upgrade yourself. Donating to religious places or charities and helping those in need is also encouraged. Consider investing in intellectual assets, and students may perform well.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, you may feel somewhat low and experience health-related issues, with the possibility of chronic diseases resurfacing. Avoid rushing and taking risks while driving. Refrain from conflicts with business partners and postpone important business decisions. Elders' blessings may bring improvements by late evening.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you may receive blessings from destiny, allowing postponed projects to commence. With the help of elders' blessings, messy situations will come under control, expediting your projects. Disputes among family members are likely to be resolved, enhancing domestic harmony. Your creativity may flourish, leading to improvements in artefacts. You may be drawn to glamour.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today is a good day filled with enthusiasm. Your strong focus can lead to excellent performance in business and work. Your boss may offer support, and you may receive new responsibilities in terms of promotion. Consider visiting a religious place and avoid arrogance in your love life.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, the moon's influence is favourable, and your destiny is on your side, allowing postponed projects to start. Elders' blessings may help resolve messy situations and boost your work's pace. Resolving disputes among family members may contribute to domestic harmony. Your creativity may flourish, whether in artefacts, movies, or other forms of glamour that attract you.

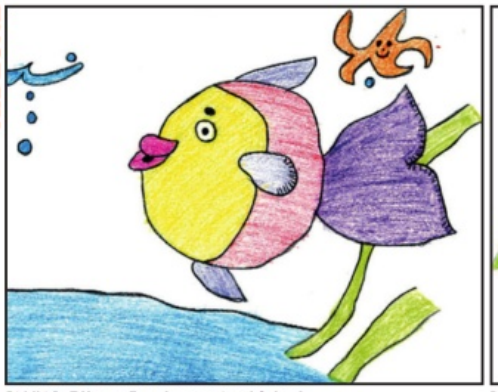
Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, the moon is not in a favourable position, and you may feel dull with health issues. You could face losses during this period, so it's advised not to invest in risky assets and avoid investing in worthless objects. Stay away from controversies to prevent negative outcomes.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you are blessed by the moon, and love is in the air in your personal life. Singles may find suitable matches, and your professional life may flourish. Your friends and subordinates are likely to support you.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, you may have confidence, which will reflect in your work. You're in a winning position against opponents and enemies, maintaining a strong focus on your goals. Your health may be good, but in your domestic life, avoid unnecessary arguments to maintain harmony.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
You may experience happiness due to auspicious planetary combinations. Positive energy may elevate your prestige among those around you. Spend your time studying intellectual materials and plan for higher studies.

KIDZONE



Riddhi D, 7 Years, Euro International School

Purvi, 9 Years, Kensri School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M 9(64+8)×2 = 9(8)×2 = 72×2 = 144

BULL'S EYE coda, COMMAND, damn, nomad

RIDDLER They are on opposite sides of the river (nowhere does it say that they come to the river together). One simply uses the boat to cross the river and the other person gets into the boat and takes it back to where it started.

QUOTE UNCODE Let the great world spin for ever down the ringing grooves of change.

FAST FIVE

S	P	E	L	L
T	O	O	U	E
I	N	U	R	N
N	G	A	I	O
G	O	L	D	S

STRIKE OUT

P	O	S	E	R	S	T
D	I	S	O	W	N	E
S	C	A	L	A	I	D
O	H	M	S	B	A	A
A	B	T	A	N	G	O
K	N	I	G	H	T	A
E	T	A	O	R	T	A
A	A	V	E	N	G	E
A	E	R	I	E	A	R
I	R	E	D	T	R	Y
R	O	A	M	E	D	L
S	Y	D	A	I	L	Y
E	L	E	A	G	A	N
P	O	S	E	R	S	T

QUICK

J	U	C	K	T	E	R
M	O	N	A	C	O	H
S	M	L	E	R	V	E
C	H	A	P	L	O	T
S	N	O	W	M	A	N
D	E	F	I	E	D	O
S	N	S	M	H	E	R

MENSA PUZZLE
A: looking across the squares, the top left corner alternates one line/two lines; the top three lines; the top right corner alternates line right vertical/line left vertical; the bottom left top horizontal/bottom horizontal and the bottom right corner alternates opposite corners.

SUDOKU

8	4	3	1	9	5	2	6	7
9	5	6	3	7	2	1	8	4
2	1	7	6	4	8	5	3	9
7	6	1	4	8	9	3	2	5
4	8	9	2	5	3	7	1	6
3	2	5	7	6	1	4	9	8
1	9	8	5	3	7	6	4	2
6	7	2	8	1	4	9	5	3
5	3	4	9	2	6	8	7	1

GO FIGURE
Easy
7 − 4 − 2 + 3 = 4
Medium
2 / 2 × 2 + 4 = 6
Hard
4 − 2 × 9 − 6 = 12

ALPHA TRIANGLE
S, SE, Sec, Sect, Cites, Cites, Elicits.

LOOP

KAKURO

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'Crossroads' sequel

Director Tamra Davis, with whom Britney Spears worked with in 'Crossroads' said she is in talks with the singer for a potential sequel to the film

Deep dive

First glimpse of Rashmika's next film leaves fans guessing

Director Rahul Ravindran has unveiled the first glimpse of his next feature film 'The Girlfriend' which stars actress Rashmika Mandanna in the lead role and it sure is a creepy one.

The title glimpse looks like the film will be a psychological-thriller-horror-crime film which likely revolves around a man who just wants a girlfriend. But for him, his girlfriend is more than just someone to love, hold, and caress.

Instead, for him it is something he can call his own rather than someone, meaning that he treats them more like a showcase property. In the video, an unseen man can be heard speaking in Telugu, saying: "I love her so much that she doesn't need any friends or family…I am all she needs.I want her 24/7 to myself and myself only. But to call a girlfriend, and say that she is MINE is a different kind of high."

Indicating a purely obsessive stalker-like attitude, we proceed to see Rashmika Mandana underwater, first smiling as she is struggling to breathe, her eyes soon begin to turn pale as she is now struggling with no oxygen.

The National Award winning director announced the reveal on X and wrote: "Here's the announcement glimpse of my next directorial project. Very grateful to the universe to be starting another film: Cannot wait to start shooting with the bundle of positive energy that is Rashmika#TheGirlfriend."

Rashmika also announced the reveal on her X handle and wrote: "The world is full of great love stories. But there are those few love stories that haven't been heard or seen before, and 'The Girlfriend' is one such."

–IANS

SANDALWOOD SHOTS

Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Fans take stage

Director Aravind Kaushik is busy with promotional activities of his latest film, Ardhambardha Premakathe. Aravind Kaushik also had fans release the video of a song Huchchumansina Hudugi. The song's lyrics are written by Aravind Kaushik, while Arjun Janya has scored its music and Vasuki Vaibhav and Prithvi Bhat are the singers.

Aravind Kaushik said he selected Divya Uruduga as a heroine for this movie while writing the script. "I contacted Aravind through Divya to know if he is interested. Aravind took two days to say yes," said Aravind.

The director said the shoot of the movie is completed.

Aravind, a professional motor racer, said that acting was not easy. "I attended a workshop for a few days. It was very tough for me to face the camera for two to three days. Later, Aravind Kaushik and Divya guided me," said Aravind.

Hero's welcome

Chikkanna, who is known for playing trusty sidekicks of various heroes, is excited that heroes Duniya Vijay, Prem, Abhisekh Ambarish, Pratham, and Dhanveer showed him their affection by attending the trailer launch of his maiden movie Upadhyaksha. Navarasa Nayaka Jaggesh conveyed best wishes to Chikkanna in a video message.

"I have been in Sandalwood for more than a decade. I am very happy to earn goodwill, love, and affection for the heroes of Sandalwood. I am basically a mason. I faced a lot of problems during my career as a comedian. I also want to thank all the masons who wished me good luck through a video. I thank director Anil Kumar and producer Umapathy for selecting me to play the lead in this movie," said Chikkanna.

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